



FirstBaptistChurch

JEFFERSON CITY TENNESSEE

Breaking down barriers to proclaim the love of Christ.

THE MESSENGER

MARCH 2024

FROM MAJOR TREADWAY

This year, the month of March is almost entirely consumed by the season of Lent, which ends on March 30, the day before Easter. One of the ways in which the season of Lent serves as a microcosm of the Christian life is the challenge to remain in the present. Jesus seemed to know this challenge well, advising in Matthew 6:34 that we should “not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”



In Lent, the temptation is not to look ahead with worry, but to look ahead to the celebration of Easter. However, we have a lot of Lent left to travel before we get there. In the same way that Jesus cautioned the disciples not to worry about the days ahead, we need not jump ahead to celebrating and miss the value of the present. For no matter how hard we try, we cannot live this life in any moment other than the present.

Each day, each hour, each moment is a gift. When we spend too much time focused on moments that are not the present, the present moments silently slip by. (That is not to say that there is not value in reflecting on the past to learn nor in planning for the future.) For the month of March, for what remains in Lent, let’s focus on each present moment – engaging our chosen Lenten practices, pressing forward toward the cross, one moment at a time.



ANTHEM HIGHLIGHT

By Nenette Measels, Interim Minister of Music

During this season of Lent we are called to answer difficult questions with soul-searching honesty. Can we follow Jesus to the cross and embrace this journey as selflessly as He did? Can we accept this life of joy even if it also holds pain and sacrifice? The choral anthem, "Can You Drink This Cup?" by Pamela Martin and Craig Courtney challenges us to answer this question and celebrate God's gift of everlasting life.

Can you drink this cup, embrace it in your hands?
Can you look inside and face what it demands?
In the wine you see reflections of your soul.
No one else can drink this cup that you must hold.

Can you drink the cup? Then you must lift it high
though this cup of joy holds pain and sacrifice.
When you lift your cup, raise it unafraid.
Lift it up, this cup of life, and celebrate.

Can you drink the cup until there is no more?
When the wine is gone, Christ Himself will pour
Though you drink it all the cup is never dry.
God keeps filling it with everlasting life.*

**Can You Drink This Cup?* Lyrics by Pamela Martin, music by Craig Courtney, Beckenhorst Press, Inc., 2001



Holy Week

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY March 24	10:45 AM Sanctuary
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE (ON WEDNESDAY) March 27	6:00 PM Fellowship Hall
EASTER SUNDAY March 31	10:45 AM Sanctuary*

*Please bring fresh flowers to decorate the cross!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

By Ricke Hester, Interim Administrative Coordinator

Summary of Operational Budget Income & Expense through January 2024

Items of Interest

- **Online Giving** is simple and convenient, and you do not have to set up a Realm account to give online. Visit: <https://onrealm.org/fbcjeff/give/now> to initiate an online gift today!
- **Designated Benevolence Fund total** (as of 2/22/2024) = \$95.15

	October	November	December	January
Income	\$41,537.86	\$27,244.46	\$66,584.74	\$18,379.18
Expenses	\$25,566.67	\$23,733.09	\$30,422.48	\$41,733.71
Net	\$15,971.19	\$3,511.37	\$36,162.26	\$23,354.53
YTD	\$9,712.39	\$13,223.76	\$49,249.30	\$23,354.53

ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY	BIBLE STUDY	IN-PERSON WORSHIP
February 4	60	110
February 11	65	105
February 18	52	103
February 25	63	103

DEACONS & MINISTER OF THE WEEK

March 3: Ken Morton & Peggy Dalton/Chad Hartsock

March 10: Susan Garber & Betty Watkins/Nenette Measels

March 17: Leon Shoemaker & Karen Smith/Major Treadway

March 24: Carolyn Blevins & Jim Wilson/Chad Hartsock

March 31: Mel Hawkins & Peggy Dalton/Nenette Measels



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

Wednesday Night Suppers (WNS) are at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The upcoming March menus are as follows:

March 6:	Lasagna, Green Salad, French Bread, Brownies
March 13:	Chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Slaw, Yeast Rolls, Pineapple Upside Cake
March 20:	Taco Salad, Ice Cream Sundaes
March 27	Spaghetti, Green Salad, Texas Toast, Ice Cream

Prices of Meals:

Under 6th grade: \$2.00 | 6th grade through Adult: \$5.00 | Family Rate: \$15.00

Making a Reservation:

You need to have a reservation made by noon on Monday before eating on Wednesday. If you make a reservation and do not come to eat, you will still agree to pay for the meal that was prepared for you.

Options When Making a Reservation:

1. Ask to have a permanent reservation and cancel for a Wednesday night that you cannot attend.
2. Call weekly to make your reservation.

DEACONS' REPORT

The Deacons held their monthly meeting on February 21, 2024 in the Agape SS Class at 4:00 p.m. Thirteen deacons were present. Pastor Major Treadway joined the meeting.

Discussion focused mainly on the proposal the deacons have put forth to sponsor and support quarterly luncheons following Sunday morning worship. This offer has been discussed with church staff and it has been suggested that it coincide with the quarterly church business meeting currently called "Church Ministries Night." In an effort to give all members an opportunity to attend the meeting, having it after lunch, following morning worship, could be helpful. It was agreed to give this a try for one year. Further details will be made available.

Jim Wilson shared ideas for outreach and how do we communicate a welcoming attitude?

Bethany Davenport was commended for the events for parents and children which have been planned and well-advertised.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

By Bethany Davenport, Chair, Children and Youth Committee



Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 23rd
10:30 to 11:30 am
FBC Jefferson City
The Easter Story, Crafts,
& Egg Hunting (of course)!
Food trucks on site to purchase
lunch afterwards!

RSVP here 

**Now accepting donations of candy and small prizes in the
foyer and at the covered entrance!**



FAMILY
Paint Night
Friday, April 5th
6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall
\$15 per family

Supplies & instruction provided!
Sign up using the QR below!





We will provide lunch (sandwiches, chips, and desserts) for the choir and for us after the concert!

If you are willing to help, please call (865-696-0625) or email (rosserlinda3@gmail.com) Linda Rosser.

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MARCH

12:00 PM

FBC Jefferson City, Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

9:30am Sunday Bible Studies
10:45am Worship Service

CONTACT INFO

(865) 475-3826; (865) 262-9026 (Fax)
Church Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Find us at www.fbcjeff.org or follow us online on *Facebook* and *YouTube*

STAFF

Sierra Bevins (sbevins@fbcjeff.org)	Ministry Assistant
Angie France	Organist
Chad Hartsock (chartsock@fbcjeff.org)	Interim Minister of Youth & College Students
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Nenette Measels (nmeasels@fbcjeff.org)	Interim Minister of Music
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Major Treadway (major@fbcjeff.org)	Senior Pastor

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